Fight to Win!

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SCAN TO READ ABOUT ANTI-IMPERIALIST, DECOLONIAL, + REVOLUTIONARY LABOR MOVEMENTS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE IMPERIAL CORE

7 days to MAY DAY campaign

Destroy the War Machine!

On the importance of militant organizing

By Sasja and LK, Washtenaw

Where we find ourselves

The U.S. imperialist project is in crisis. In the face of its decreasing economic dominance, the U.S. military is doubling down on its use of force. The U.S. and the entire Atlantic Alliance have shown how readily they will gather their military strength to support Israel's genocide and to protect their own capitalist interests.

Along with sending billions in weapons to Israel, the U.S. has bombed Yemen, Iraq, Somalia and Syria just in the past few months. There is yet another looming military intervention in Haiti and a criminal blockade in Cuba. The numerous starvation sanction regimes are themselves an act of war and a cause of mass suffering around the world.

The struggle for self determination of Haiti is directly tied to the struggle of self determination in Palestine and for the self determination of Black and Brown and working class folks here in the U.S. The growing military and police state, austerity measures and the total lack of social support for people in the U.S. is heightening the contradictions between the capitalist class and everyone else.

The structural crisis of capitalism in its neoliberal form has created a legitimacy crisis for the imperialist rulers, making the use of force a permanent strategy for maintaining their dominance. With the mass upsurge of resistance to the genocide in Palestine, anti-imperialist organizations like the Palestinian Youth Movement recognize that "we are in a moment of sharpened contradictions."

General reaction to world events

We are living through a revival of internationalism and another extended moment of mass protest. Right now we are seeing an almost unprecedented uprising against imperialism here in the U.S. Since October 7th, people have shown up to mass protests and direct actions against weapons manufacturers. Organized groups have managed to mobilize more people, and joined forces with each other to form larger coalitions.

Mass protests and educational campaigns have helped spur a consciousness shift in people, further radicalizing folks who were previously doubtful, focused on single-issues or not politicized. There is an increased awareness of the links between the genocide in Gaza and labor struggles, between the Israeli occupation and the blockade on Cuba, between police brutality and Cop Cities, between military spending and the housing crisis.

People are ready to take more, or higher, risks to fight against these oppressive systems at home as a direct response to witnessing imperialist actions abroad. In other words, more of us are seeing how "the bombs in Vietnam [Gaza, Yemen, etc] explode at home."

How we relate to those reactions and the way we see forward

U.S. companies like BAE Systems, General Dynamics, Hyundai, Eaton and Caterpillar are designing, producing and selling the weapons that are being used to massacre people, destroy hospitals and places of worship in Gaza and elsewhere right now. General Dynamics makes the 2,000 lb "bunker buster" bombs used by the Israeli military, along with a wide variety of other weapons. BAE provides the Israeli military with components for combat aircraft, munitions, missile launching kits, and armored vehicles. MTU, Oshkosh and Kuka are among the other weapons manufacturers that have direct ties to Israel. Many of them have offices right here in Sterling Heights in the Weapons Corridor.

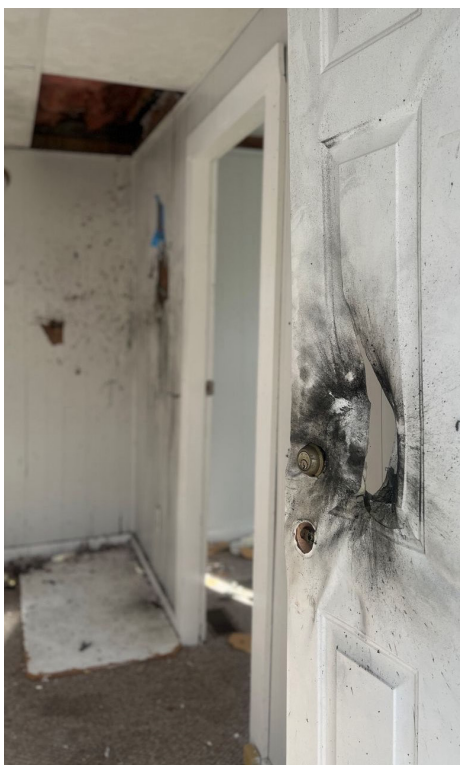
By targeting these companies we delay production and stop the labor and money funding U.S. backed imperialist projects abroad. For example the majority of ammunition that Israel uses is being manufactured in the U.S. Without this flow of weapons the genocide would not be possible. Disrupting the manufacturing chain is a real threat to the Imperialists, and we must exploit this vulnerability. Our job is to challenge the war machine here to divert aggression away from struggles on the frontier. Disruption is necessary.

We need to intensify our organizing efforts on all these fronts: mass work, political education and direct action. Without mass work there can be no sustained disruption, without education there is no concrete base to build on, and without disruption there is no material gain. The truth is we need both long term and short term organization. We need to build a mass movement big enough to overthrow the imperialist capitalist war machine. And we need wins — even the small ones — to sustain us and our morale.

Mobilization is not enough. We need to organize and combine efforts with other mass organizations and to change the narrative on the ideological battlefield. As revolutionaries we have a duty to move that needle further. "Revolutionary history has shown time and time again that superior organization can and will defeat superior resources, weaponry, and even numbers." — hood communist

This is where we should focus our collective power. We must do it with determination, discipline and clarity.

A U.S. map of all weapons manufacturers that make weapons sent to Israel:
https://thebusinessofwar.substack.com/p/mapping-the-business-of-war



Aftermath of the two vacant houses used for SWAT training on March 12.

Instead of housing our neighbors, the City of Lansing uses vacant homes for SWAT training.

By Nifty and Eli, Lansing GDC

On March 12 in Lansing, Mich. local police departments turned two vacant houses on South Hayford Avenue into a SWAT training playground.

They did this with no advanced notice to residents and instead went lazily knocking on a few surrounding doors on the day of the training. Neighbors were subjected to explosive noises, the sounds of windows shattering and doors being beaten in with a battering ram, as dozens of cops descended on the Urbandale neighborhood in a school bus sized police vehicle.

The noise was so deafening that more pigs showed up to the scene to respond to this criminal activity. When the new cops arrived and saw that it was their people responsible, they turned to leave. As they were confronted by an angry resident on the street, the cop responded, "This is all perfectly normal." This is not normal or at least it shouldn't be.

The Urbandale neighborhood is located in Lansing's floodplain, an area of the city that is susceptible to extreme flooding when the Grand River overflows her banks. In 1975, a storm brought the Grand River to a crest of over 15 feet. The Urbandale neighborhood was flooded with nearly 100 homes surrounded by water, some up to the street signs. Though the neighborhood recovered, since this time, the city has sought to discourage residents from living in this neighborhood.

Many houses have been stolen through foreclosure and then swiftly demolished. Zoning prohibits dwellings to be rebuilt or existing houses to be substantially improved upon. FEMA has provided the city with millions of dollars in grants to cover the cost of purchasing and demolishing existing homes, many of which were in perfectly fixable condition, meanwhile homeowners are ineligible for federal grants for much needed repairs including lead abatement.

Urbandale is historically one of the city's oldest blue collar sub-divisions. Housing prices have been generally lower in this neighborhood than other parts of the city making it one of the few places left in Lansing where families of modest means can own their own homes. Many families have lived in Urbandale for generations. The neighborhood is beautiful and usually quite peaceful, its streets are lined with mature trees and big gardens grow abundantly in many of its open lots. But to the City of Lansing, this neighborhood and its residents are at best a potential liability and at worst an inconvenience standing in the way of more lucrative "development."

The city has not made clear their ultimate plans for the Urbandale neighborhood, but just a half mile east in this very same floodplain, luxury condos, overpriced restaurants and high-end shops have been erected to cater to wealthy MSU students. This fact has not gone unnoticed by Urbandale residents, many of whom nervously speculate about the fate of the neighborhood.

While thousands of Lansing residents struggle to find affordable housing, the city is tearing down livable homes, but first they unleash their attack dogs to join in on the destruction.

WHAT IS GDC?

The Michigan General Defense Committee is a Non-Sectarian Revolutionary Anti-Capitalist Community Defense Organization. We organize where the class struggle is sharpest — in our workplaces, neighborhoods, and homes. We are fighting for a world without bosses and landlords, where the multinational working class controls production, and distribution is based on human need. We are an independent class organization that does not rely on foundations or grants for funding. We also believe there is no class struggle without the struggle against white supremacy, colonialism, and patriarchy. We believe that it is up to the working class themselves to resist exploitation and oppression. GDC engages in activity that directly helps overcome social divisions, encourages resilience, solidarity, fighting spirit, organization, and self-determination. We fight to win.

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POSITION on IMPERIALISM

The General Defense Committee has added anti-imperialist work to our core projects. This document is, in many ways, aspirational. We hope that this document will help build the foundation that will allow us to turn our words into practice. Our work is to engage in revolutionary solidarity with the working classes of the world.

• We take a resolute anti-colonial, anti-imperialist position that links the international role of the U.S. empire to the domestic war against poor people and working-class, Black and Brown peoples in the United States.

• The liberation of oppressed nations and people worldwide is the first condition of our own emancipation. Resistance to U.S. imperialism abroad weakens the dominion that the ruling classes have over the people here. Anti-capitalist resistance here weakens U.S. rule abroad.

• The struggle against the U.S. empire requires us to fight internally for Black and Indigenous liberation, for land reclamation, and against all attempts to imprison and displace the masses.

• Black people in the United States have historically been the vanguard of revolutionary internationalist movements. The lessons we learn from Black liberation movements are central to understanding the way forward for a revolutionary anti-imperialism in the United States.

• Living in the belly of the beast puts us in a unique position to fight imperialism at home. This looks like both building a mass movement at home and taking steps to weaken the war machine. Confronting the empire at home through anti-capitalist organizing is anti-imperialist work, as it creates another front that the ruling classes have to contend with.

• By making connections with the wars abroad we are also making connections to the wars at home, and vice versa. Work rooted in/with the people builds a mass organized to resist exploitation and defend the gains won through struggle. Our mass work must be guided by the horizon of a global anti-capitalist revolution which smashes the walls and borders built and maintained by imperialism.

• U.S. imperialism demonizes anti-colonial struggles as "threats" to our way of life, while it relies on constant theft and war to make us dependent on exploitation, extraction, and oppression abroad.

• While imperialist, capitalist wars seek to divide the global organized masses, anti-imperialism breaks patterns of exceptionalism and isolation. By uniting our struggles, we become part of the global revolutionary movement. We realize the fight for liberation here is bound to the liberation of oppressed people everywhere.

• Capitalism demands exploitation throughout the world and drives our world's ecological destruction. U.S. imperialism is the dominant political, military, economic, and cultural power within the world-system, and thus the main enemy of the workers and oppressed peoples of the world.

• We recognize imperialism is a world system. As revolutionaries who reside or are settled in the United States, our primary work is against the U.S. empire.

• We struggle for the revolutionary overthrow and abolition of the imperialist world-system and all forms of exploitation and oppression.

• Imperialism is a threat to every revolutionary struggle for national liberation, Black and Indigenous liberation, economic justice, environmental protection, and all movements for social advancement.

• U.S. imperialism deceives us into thinking of ourselves as members of a ruling nation and seeks to make us accomplices to its dominion abroad. It makes us unwilling participants in its constant expansionism and requires our passiveness to the struggles of colonized and occupied people across the world.

• Today the world revolutionary movement is led by the masses of the Global South — Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean — and those struggling for self-determination within the colonial U.S borders. These struggles are connected, and there can be no genuine self-determination for Palestine, for African nations, for the world, unless the power that the U.S. holds is uprooted.

• We must engage in any and all forms of struggle against the enemy, we must defend all those people engaged in this fight.

• We fight for more solidarity, more struggle and more collaboration to confront the enemies of human liberation. We want to build an anti-imperialist struggle on the ground of everyday people. We Fight to Win!

In solidarity with the mothers currently facing the unfortunate task of being mandated to stay at Women's Huron Valley Correctional facility, we express our support to all.

Mothers imprisoned like Krystal Clark with mold allergies that are denied medication and specialist care. To **all** mothers being denied proper medical care and inhumane treatment. Meanwhile Judge Victoria Roberts decided WHVC is not constitutionally obligated to provide a mold-free environment to those who reside there.

To all the mothers at WHVC, forced to live in a mold-filled prison, and to Krystal Clark:

We are here for you to let you know you are not forgotten, you are supported and we hope to give you some joy or respite from your conditions.